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ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Forty-eighth session
(19-27 April 1993)

PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION

to be held in the Palais des Nations, Geneva,
starting at 10 a.m. on Monday, 19 April 1993

1.	Adoption of the Agenda	
2.	Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments	
3.	Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy	E/ECE/1272
4.	Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992	E/ECE/1273
5.	The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies:	
	(a) review of ECE activities since the forty-seventh session and implementation of decision O (45) and decisions of the forty-seventh session	1/

1/ For documentation on this sub-item see the explanatory notes to the Provisional Agenda

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(b)	ECE programme of work for 1993-1997 - the future work of the Commission; coordination of, and guidelines for, the activities of its subsidiary bodies	E/ECE/1277
(c)	cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions	E/ECE/1278
(d)	resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly	E/ECE/1282
(e)	Commission's contribution to the United Nations global programmes and to the Organization's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions	E/ECE/1283

6. Other business

7. Election of Officers

8. Annual Report of the Commission

EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THE AGENDA

General

1. Taking into account the indications given at the forty-seventh session of the Commission (E/1992/32, paragraph 224) and at the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings of the Commission held since that session, subsequent consultations with the Officers of the Commission, and relevant decisions of the Economic and Social Council, the period from Monday, 19 April to Tuesday, 27 April 1993 has been reserved for the forty-eighth session of the Commission.

2. In accordance with Rule 3 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, the basic documents referred to in the Provisional Agenda (E/ECE/1271) will, wherever possible, be transmitted to Governments "not less than forty-two days before the opening of the session", i.e. not later than 8 March 1993.

3. The provisional Order of Business for the forty-eighth session of the Commission is annexed hereto. It has been drawn up by the Executive Secretary in accordance with the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group set up by the Ad Hoc Informal Meeting on 5 October for the strengthening of the annual session of the Commission, and in consultation with the Bureau at its meetings on 17 December 1992 and 14 January 1993. It takes into account the fact that not all the recommendations of the Working Group can be implemented in time for the forty-eighth session. Accordingly the Commission will at its opening meeting set up the Sessional Committee for the forty-eighth session.

Item 1: Adoption of the Agenda

4. According to Rule 7 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, "the first item upon the provisional agenda for each session shall be the adoption of the agenda". According to Rule 8, "the Commission may amend the agenda at any time".

Item 2: Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments
Policy statements

5. Under this item delegations may wish to present policy statements on the economic situation and policy developments in their country and in the region, and on the work of the Commission as a whole since the forty-seventh session.

6. Delegations are invited to supply the full text of their policy statements to the secretariat for distribution to Permanent Missions in Geneva whenever possible at least one week in advance of the opening of the session. During the session delegations will be allotted a maximum of ten minutes each for the presentation of their policy statement.

Economic Survey of Europe in 1992-1993

7. Under this item there will be a presentation by the secretariat of the Economic Survey of Europe in 1992-1993 (ECE(48)/1). To promote an exchange of views on this occasion the secretariat will issue prior to the session an overview of the main development issues and policies contained in the

Survey. Delegations will be limited to a 10-minute oral presentation during which they are urged to avoid giving detailed information on developments in their individual countries. It is hoped that such information will be circulated in a written text to be transmitted to the secretariat as early as possible (preferably in about 50 copies) for distribution to participants at the session.

Round Table

Under this item the afternoon session on Friday, 23 April will be devoted to a Round Table discussion with the participation of personalities in the world of politics and economics on the selected theme: Integration of the countries in transition, including new members States, into the European economy: what can be expected of the ECE in key sectors?

Item 3: Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to a market economy and their integration with the European and global economy

8. Under this item the Commission will consider the Executive Secretary's report (E/ECE/1272) on the activities of subsidiary bodies and the secretariat during the past year in this respect, particularly the programme of workshops and other forms of assistance to countries in transition. The report will also provide a full account of follow-up action taken in the implementation of Commission decision D (47) - The work of the Commission concerning economies in transition in eastern and central Europe. It will also take into account the special needs of new members of the Commission. Under this item the Commission may wish to consider the proposal made at the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings to pay special attention to privatization.

Item 4: Activities of the Economic Commission for Europe to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992

9. In accordance with preambular paragraph 3 and operative paragraph 2 of decision A (46) and its previous resolutions, the Commission will have before it for the consideration of this item the report of the Executive Secretary (E/ECE/1273). The report will take into account the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and other CSCE documents which call for multilateral implementation within the framework of the ECE, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Document 1992. Note will also be taken of the outcome of the CSCE Economic Forum tentatively scheduled for 16-18 March 1993. The report will also contain an account of follow-up action taken in response to Commission decision G (47) - Economic Cooperation in the Mediterranean in the light of the Final Act of the CSCE. Under this item the Commission may wish to consider the proposal made at the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings to reconcile the priorities in the economic field indicated by the CSCE with those defined in Commission decision O (45).

Item 5: The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies:

(a) review of ECE activities since the forty-seventh session and implementation of decision O (45) and decisions of the forty-seventh session

(b) ECE programme of work for 1993-1997 - the future work of the Commission; coordination of, and guidelines for, the activities of its subsidiary bodies

(c) cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions

(d) resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly

(e) Commission's contribution to the United Nations global programmes and to the Organisation's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions

This item will be discussed in the Sessional Committee. The Committee's discussion of agenda item 5 (The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies) will cover the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, including elements which require a cross-sectoral approach by more than one subsidiary body, and those which do not fall within the purview of a subsidiary body. The discussion will consider the programme of work both vertically and horizontally, and will entail a review of the past year's activities as well as a preview of the work for the year ahead. The Committee is expected to discuss aspects of the work which require the Commission's attention, decision or action. The horizontal debate will be presided over by the Chairman of the Commission with the collective participation of representatives of the bureau of each subsidiary body reporting directly to the Commission. Consideration of this item will take into account the sub-items which are as follows:

10. For discussion of sub-item (a) **review of ECE activities since the forty-seventh session and implementation of decision O (45) and decisions of the forty-seventh session** the Commission will have before it the reports of these bodies as listed in the footnote. 2/

11. The Report of the Chairman of the Commission on his consultations with the officers of the subsidiary bodies in the course of the year, in accordance with the provisions of decision P (45), will also be available to the Commission. The Summary Document prepared by the secretariat for the

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Senior Economic Advisers to ECE Governments (twenty-eighth session)	ECE/EC.AD/40
Committee on Agriculture (forty-fourth session)	ECE/AGRI/122
Timber Committee (fiftieth session)	ECE/TIM/63
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Environmental and Water Problems (sixth session)	ECE/ENVWA/29
Committee on Human Settlements (fifty-third session)	ECE/HBP/86
Committee on the Development of Trade (forty-first session)	ECE/TRADE/184
Committee on Energy (second session)	ECE/ENERGY/21
Senior Advisers to ECE Governments on Science and Technology (twentieth session)	ECE/SC.TECH/44
Inland Transport Committee (fifty-fifth session)	ECE/TRANS/97
Conference of European Statisticians (fortieth session)	ECE/CES/40
Working Party on the Chemical Industry (second session)	ECE/CHEM/86
Working Party on Engineering Industries and Automation (twelfth session)	ECE/ENG.AUT/51
Working Party on Standardization Policies (second session)	ECE/STAND/36
Working Party on Steel (second session)	ECE/STEEL/80

Ad Hoc Informal Meetings in January and March 1993 will also be made available to delegations. The Summary Document will reflect the highlights and difficulties encountered as well as other relevant issues relating to the work of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission. The summaries of the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings convened since the forty-seventh session by the Chairman in accordance with the same decision will also be available to the Commission (ECE/AC.20/92(1) etc.).

12. The secretariat will submit reports on the progress made in the implementation of Commission decision B (47) - The provision of adequate resources for the servicing of the priority sectors of the Economic Commission for Europe (E/ECE/1274); Commission decision E (47) - Cooperation in the field of environment and sustainable development (E/ECE/1275) and Commission decision F (47) - Cooperation in the field of transport (E/ECE/1276).

13. For consideration of sub-item (b) **ECE programme of work for 1993-1997 - the future work of the Commission; coordination of, and guidelines for, the activities of its subsidiary bodies**, the Committee will have before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1277, which will contain the Commission's draft programme of work for 1993-1997, supplemented by factual information on such questions as meetings, reports and other documentation, as required by decision O (45). The Committee will consider the concentration and integration of the Commission's programme of work and its activities of a cross-sectoral nature. Representatives of the Principal Subsidiary Bodies and Working Parties reporting directly to the Commission will be invited to participate collectively in the Committee's consideration of the coordination of the programme of work and its cross-sectoral activities and potential. Under this item the Committee will have before it the programme narrative of the ECE budget submission for the biennium 1994-1995 as well as the ECE Medium Term Plan for 1992 to 1997, in accordance with Commission decision A (44): Work of the Sessional Committee.

14. For discussion of sub-item **(c) cooperation and coordination of activities with other international organizations and institutions**, the Committee will have before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1278 which will contain an account of developments concerning the cooperation and coordination of activities of the Commission and its secretariat with other international organizations and institutions during the past year, with particular emphasis on those active in the ECE region and cited by the Commission in its decisions. Under this sub-item the Commission may wish to consider the proposal made at the Ad Hoc Informal Meetings to organize more joint activities, at both the intergovernmental and secretariat levels, with other international organizations and institutions active in the region.

15. For discussion of sub-item **(d) resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly**, the Committee will have before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1279 which will refer to relevant resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly during the period since the close of the forty-seventh session of the Commission which call for action by the Commission or otherwise have a bearing on its work.

16. For consideration of sub-item **(e) Commission's contribution to the United Nations global programmes and programmes the Organisation's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions**, the Committee will have before it the Executive Secretary's note E/ECE/1280 in which an account is given of the progress made in the work of the Commission since the forty-seventh session in respect of technical cooperation activities, including those carried out in

cooperation with the other regional commissions and donor organizations. It will also review the Commission's contribution to global programmes of the United Nations including forthcoming or recent global conferences or international years.

Item 6: Other business

17. Under this item the Commission may wish to consider possible recommendations for a revision of its Terms of Reference, with particular regard to Article 7 on membership, for consideration by the Economic and Social Council, and its Rules of Procedure. The Commission will also hear a statement by the Executive Secretary concerning the date and place of the forty-ninth session of the Commission.

Item 12: Election of Officers

18. According to Rule 13 of the Commission's Rules of Procedure, as amended at the forty-second session, at the closing meeting of its forty-seventh session the Commission elected Mr. William Rossier (Switzerland) Chairman and Mr. Bernard Miyet (France) Vice-Chairman of the Commission's forty-eighth session. The Commission also elected Mr. Kalin A. Borissov (Bulgaria) Chairman and Ms. Bettina Kirnbauer (Austria) Vice-Chairman of the Sessional Committee. At the closing session of the forty-eighth session the Commission will elect its Officers for the forty-ninth session, taking into account a proposal to enlarge the Bureau.

Item 13: Annual Report of the Commission

19. This item will be organized in two parts. The first part will take place on Monday, 26 April, and will include the adoption of draft decisions relating to the work of the Commission as a whole, including the approval of its programme of work for 1993-1994 and the endorsement in principle, subject to review at its forty-ninth session, of its programme of work for 1994-1997. The Executive Secretary will ensure the advance distribution of draft resolutions or decisions. In accordance with the decision of the General Assembly, draft decisions to be adopted at the forty-eighth session must be made available to the Executive Secretary 24 hours before their adoption for a review of possible financial implications. The second part will be held on Tuesday, 27 April and will be devoted to the adoption of the report of the session which will be prepared in the course of the session by rapporteur(s) to be appointed by the Commission and assisted by the secretariat.

ANNEX

PROVISIONAL ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR THE FORTY-EIGHTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION

In accordance with the established practice for the allocation of items of the agenda for consideration by the Plenary or the Sessional Committee, it is proposed that:

(i) Items 2, 3 and 4 be discussed together in the Plenary as the general debate.

(ii) On the occasion of the setting up of the Sessional Committee the Chairman will propose to the Commission that item 5 be allocated for preliminary consideration by the Sessional Committee.

To avoid an overlap over meetings in the Plenary and the Sessional Committee there will be no simultaneous meetings during the session.

The Chairman of the Sessional Committee, when reporting to the Plenary on the outcome of the deliberations of that Committee (during the resumption of the general discussion under item 5), will transmit the recommendations of the Committee on the programme of work of the Commission's subsidiary bodies. The Plenary will thereafter consider and eventually approve the reports of the subsidiary bodies.

PROVISIONAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

Monday 19 April

Morning session: **Plenary**

Opening of the forty-eighth session of the Commission

Adoption of the agenda
(Agenda item 1)

Setting up of the Sessional Committee and allocation of items for its consideration

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Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments: Policy statements
(Agenda item 2)

To be discussed together with

Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to market economy and their integration with the European and global economy
(Agenda item 3)

and

Activities of the ECE to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Declaration 1992
(Agenda item 4)

Afternoon session: **Plenary**

Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments: Policy statements
(Agenda item 2) (continued)

To be discussed together with

Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to market economy and their integration with the European and global economy
(Agenda item 3) (continued)

and

Activities of the ECE to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Declaration 1992
(Agenda item 4) (continued)

Tuesday 20 April

Morning session: **Plenary**

Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments: Policy statements
(Agenda item 2) (continued)

To be discussed together with

Commission's activities designed to assist countries of the region in transition to market economy and their integration with the European and global economy
(Agenda item 3) (continued)

and

Activities of the ECE to implement the pertinent provisions of the Final Act of the CSCE and other CSCE documents, including the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the Helsinki Declaration 1992
(Agenda item 4) (continued)

Afternoon session: **Plenary**

Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments
(Agenda item 2) (continued)

Presentation of the Economic Survey of Europe for 1992-1993 and exchange of views

Wednesday 21 April

Sessional Committee

The Committee's discussion of agenda item 5 (The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies) will cover the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, including elements which require a cross-sectoral approach by more than one subsidiary body, and those which do not fall within the purview of a subsidiary body. The discussion will consider the programme of work both vertically and horizontally, and will entail a review of the past year's activities as well as a preview of the work for the year ahead. The Committee is expected to discuss aspects of the work which require the Commission's attention, decision or action. The horizontal debate, scheduled for the afternoon session of Thursday, 22 April, will be presided over by the Chairman of the Commission and will include the collective participation of representatives of the bureau of each subsidiary body reporting directly to the Commission. Consideration of this item will take into account the sub-items which are as follows:

(a) review of ECE activities since the forty-seventh session and the implementation of decision O (45) and of decisions of the forty-seventh session

(b) programme of work for 1993-1997 - the future work of the Commission; coordination of, and guidelines for, the activities of its subsidiary bodies

(c) cooperation and coordination of activities with other organizations and institutions

(d) resolutions bearing on the work of the Commission adopted by ECOSOC and the General Assembly

(e) Commission's contribution to the United Nations global programmes and to the Organization's programmes designed to assist developing countries of other regions

Thursday 22 April

Morning session: **Sessional Committee**

Continuation of the consideration of agenda item 5 (sub-items (a)-(e))

Afternoon session: **Sessional Committee**

The Committee's discussion of agenda item 5 (The work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies) will cover the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission, including elements which require a cross-sectoral approach by more than one subsidiary body, and those which do not fall within the purview of a subsidiary body. This session, which will be presided over by the Chairman of the Commission, will be devoted to a horizontal discussion of the work of the Commission's subsidiary bodies with the collective participation of representatives of the bureau of each subsidiary body reporting directly to the Commission.

Friday 23 April

Morning session: **Plenary**

Statement by the Chairman of the Sessional Committee on the outcome of its deliberations on item 5

Adoption of the programme of work
(Agenda item 5)

Other business
(Agenda item 6)

ECE project presentation

Afternoon session: **Plenary**

Changing situation in the ECE region: review of economic reforms and major developments (Agenda item 2) (resumed)

Round Table: Integration of the countries in transition, including new member states, into the European economy: what can be expected of the ECE in key sectors?

Monday 26 April

Plenary

Adoption of decisions
(Agenda items 2 to 7)

Election of Officers
(Agenda item 7)

Tuesday 27 April

Plenary

Adoption of the Report of the session
(Agenda item 8)